MARVEL
MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS
THE X-MEN'S
HAVOK
VS. THE CULT OF THE LIVING PHARAOH!
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BLACK PANTHER
IN "LAST NIGHT I WEPT FOR FREEDOM!"

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™

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"A HEART UNLEASHED" — PART 4 OF 8

Havok has travelled to Egypt in his pursuit of Leila O'Toole. All the forces of the Cult of the Living Pharaoh are trying to stop him.

"LAST NIGHT I WEPT FOR FREEDOM" — PART 15 OF 25

So you think you have troubles, Bunkie? Since his arrival in South Africa, the Panther has been thrown into barbed wire, beaten with clubs, tear-gassed, shot, and now a mob called the Comrads has thrown gasoline on him and set him afire! And all this without having a cup of morning coffee. Now that's what you call trouble.

"THE FUNHOUSE" — PART 2 OF 10

He has awakened to find himself in a strange body, much of it metal. Through a city which seems to be New York after nuclear devastation, he drives an unfamiliar (and extraordinary) car without thinking. A dull dead computer voice speaks from his own throat, but not from his mind, warning him of imminent attack by a tank. From the tank emerges a somehow familiar man-monster whom he has never met and who calls him "Coldblood–7." But *who*, he wonders, *is* he?

"JUST ANOTHER SHADE OF HATE"

Trapped in an underground cavern and exposed to unknown radiation, the angry young Indian rights protestor known as Jason Strongbow emerged with superhuman strength, speed, agility, and endurance — powers that allowed him to become the American Eagle. Since then, he's mellowed considerably. Now lobbying in Washington, D.C., on behalf of his people, he's learned that truth and integrity are often the first casualities in the fight for civil rights.

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CAIRO, EGYPT...
PASSENGERS DEPLANE AFTER A LONG FLIGHT FROM AUSTRALIA.
MANY OF THE PASSENGERS WILL CONTINUE ON TO FURTHER DESTINATIONS AROUND THE WORLD--
--SOME WILL STAY IN EGYPT FOR EITHER BUSINESS OR PLEASURE.
ALEX SUMMERS, KNOWN TO SOME AS HAVOK OF THE X-MEN, IS HERE ON VERY SERIOUS AND PERSONAL BUSINESS--
--AND IT WILL NOT BE PLEASURABLE FOR THOSE THAT CHOOSE TO GET IN HIS WAY.
A FOOLHARDY GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS IS ABOUT TO FIND OUT JUST HOW SERIOUS HE CAN BE!
KTASI
BUDDA BUDDA
TERRORISTS CRASHING THE GATES!
CAN'T USE MY POWERS IN PUBLIC--
--HOPEFULLY THE AIRPORT SECURITY WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE THEM!
PHARAOH'S LEGACY PART 4
A HEART UNLEASHED!
FEATURING
HAVOK

HERE COME THE AIRPORT GUARDS NOW!
THEY SEEM TO BE GETTING EVERYONE TO SAFETY--
--GUESS MY MUTANT POWERS WON'T BE NEEDED AFTER ALL!
HULPH!
AIEEE!
WOLPH!
BUDDA
PING
BUDDA
SO MUCH FOR AIRPORT SECURITY.
THAT YOUNG GIRL--!
EILEEN!
COME ON, DEAR! YOU HAVE TO MOVE OR YOU'LL BE KILLED!
SHE'S SCARED STIFF. COULDN'T MOVE IF SHE WANTED TO.
HOPE I CAN REACH THEM BEFORE THEY'RE CUT TO SHREDS--
--GET DOWN!
GOOD THING YOU MISSED HIM! THEY WANT HIM ALIVE!
I'LL BET DEAD'LL DO JUST AS WELL, MATE!
THE MEN IN THE JEEP... ONE OF THEM IS AUSTRALIAN--
--HOW STUPID OF ME! THEY'RE NOT ORDINARY TERRORISTS!
THEY'RE MERCS FROM THE PHARAOH'S CULT--

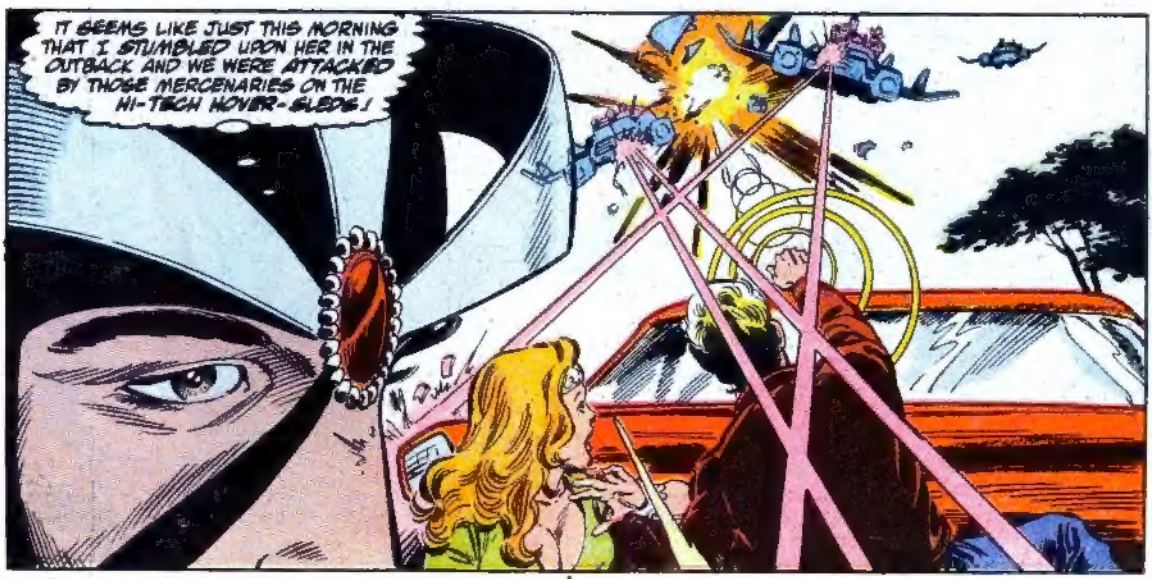
--THEY'RE AFTER ME!
THE BEST THING I COULD DO TO HELP THE REST OF THESE PEOPLE IS TO GET OUT OF HERE!
HE'S RUNNIN' LIKE A SCARED ROO, MATES. LET'S TAKE 'IM.
I'M TIRED OF 'IM MAKIN' FOOLS OF OUR TEAMS!
DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYONE IN SIGHT BEHIND THIS HANGAR.
NOW TO--
--LET LOOSE!
BERKOOOM

THAT'S IT-- RUN!
RUN BACK AND TELL WHOEVER IS IN CHARGE OF YOU ALL--
--THAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LOT MORE THAN A BUNCH OF HALF-BAKED MERCENARIES TO STOP ME FROM FINDING LEILA O'TOOLE!

SEVERAL HOURS LATER, IN A SMALL TOWN ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF CAIRO...
THIS IS IT...
THE CAIRO PYRAMID CONFECTIONERS.
THE MERC THAT I INTERROGATED YESTERDAY GAVE ME THIS ONE LEAD.

GEEZ, WAS IT ONLY YESTERDAY THAT I TORE APART THAT BAR IN AUSTRALIA?

EVERYTHING TO DO WITH LEILA HAS BEEN HAPPENING SO FAST.


IT SEEMS LIKE JUST THIS MORNING THAT I STUMBLED UPON HER IN THE OUTBACK AND WE WERE ATTACKED BY THOSE MERCENARIES ON THE HI-TECH HOVER-SLEDS!

SINCE THEN WE... WE... WE SEEM TO HAVE GROWN RATHER CLOSE!
BUT I'M STILL WARY ABOUT FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN.

I'VE BEEN HURT TOO MANY TIMES TO BLINDLY WALK INTO ANOTHER LOVE AFFAIR.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT A THING THAT LEILA CALLED A TRACKER KIDNAPED HER THREE DAYS AGO AND ALMOST KILLED ME.

THEY TOOK AWAY THE ONE NORMAL WOMAN I'VE EVER... ER, LIKED. NOW THEY'RE GOING TO PAY!
I HOPE THE X-MEN GOT THE MESSAGE I LEFT SAYING WHERE I WAS GOING--
--I KNOW HOW WOLVERINE WORRIES ABOUT ME!

THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYTHING IN THIS WAREHOUSE BUT THESE CRATES. IF THAT MERC LIED TO ME, I SWEAR I'LL TEAR HIS--

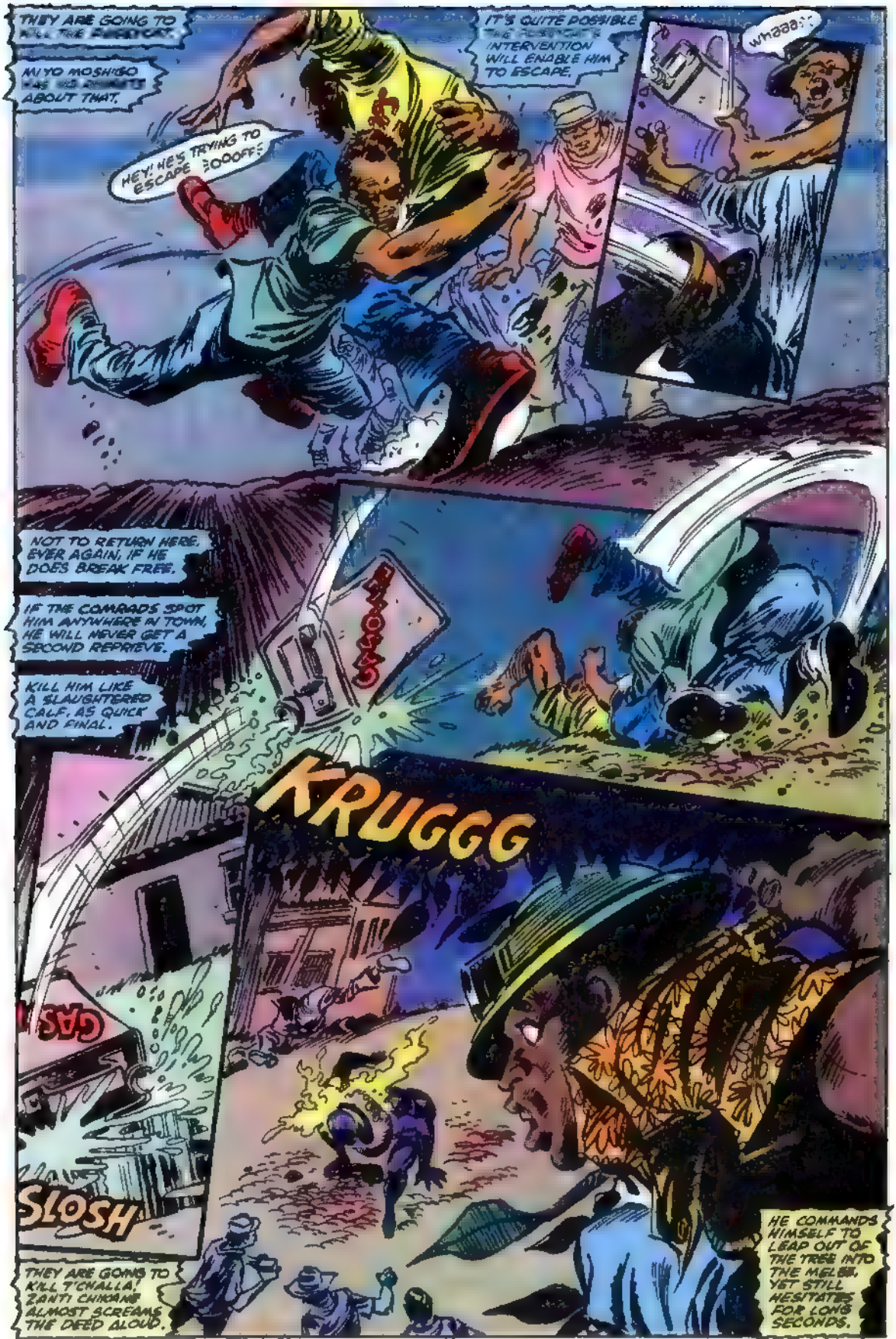
HALT!
A TRACKER!
I CAN'T GET OVER THE RESEMBLANCE THIS THING HAS TO THE LIVING PHARAOH!

HOW DARE YOU USE THE NAME OF THE MASTER IN VAIN?!
WHA—?!
YOU MUST BE JUDGED BY THE MIGHT OF THE CULT OF THE LIVING PHARAOH!
THE FLOOR WENT OUT FROM UNDER ME—GOING DOWN SOME SORT OF TUNNEL.
MOVING TOO FAST TO GRAB ONTO THE SIDES!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO ALONG FOR THE RIDE AND HOPE FOR THE—
—BEST!
DROPPED PRETTY FAR DOWN!
LOOKS LIKE THEY PLAN ON KEEPING ME HERE FOR THE LONG TERM.
WHOEVER THEY ARE--?
STAY DOWN, DOG! YOU DO NOT DESERVE TO STAND IN THE PRESENCE OF ONE WHO WEARS THE SACRED GARB!
ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE TRACKERS!
FTOOM

I SAID ON YOUR KNEES!
WHUMP
HUGPH!
BESIDES THOSE FORCE BLASTS, THESE GUYS ARE INCREDIBLY STRONG!
LET'S SEE HOW WILLING TO FIGHT HE IS WHEN I TURN UP THE HEAT A LITTLE.
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST A LOW DOSE OF MY PLASMA BLAST.
SAVING THE REAL DAMAGE FOR MY FISTS--!
JAW HARD AS STEEL. MUST BE ENCASED IN SOME SORT OF ARMOR. WHICH MEANS--
KRAK
--I DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK!
KRASHH

WASN'T SO TOUGH AFTER ALL.
WHAT'S THIS?
SEEMS TO BE SOME SORT OF TEMPLE.
PEOPLE IN CEREMONIAL GARB, AND--
--LEILA!
ENTER, FOOL. IS THIS NOT WHAT YOU SOUGHT?
YOU SEEM TO HAVE BEEN QUITE RELENTLESS IN YOUR PURSUIT OF THIS TRAITOR.
NOW, UNLESS YOU WANT TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE SPILLING OF HER BLOOD--
--YOU WILL DUEL TO THE DEATH WITH THE TRACKERS!
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

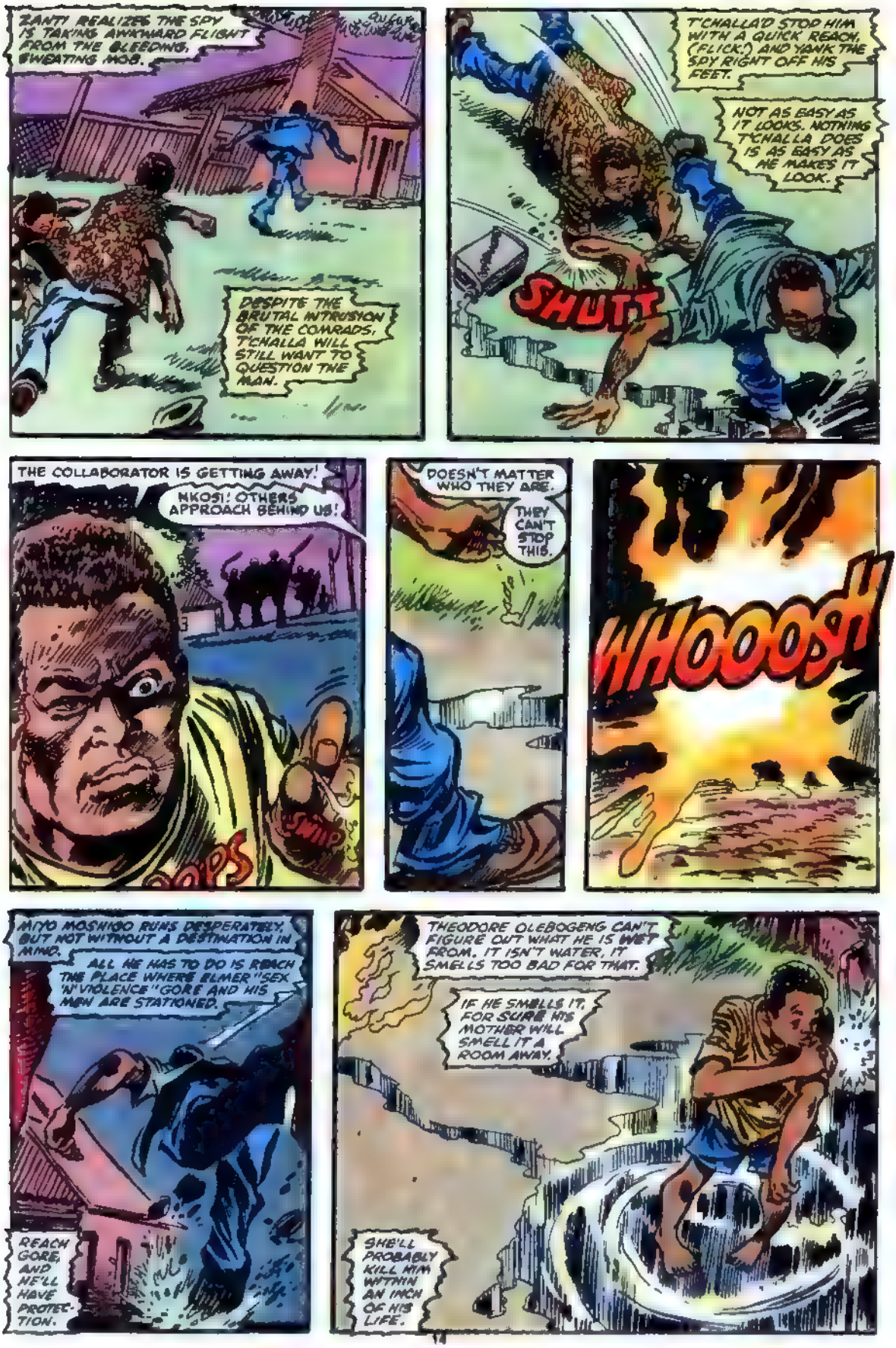
PANTHER'S QUEST
PART IX STARRING: THE BLACK PANTHER
"If a man has not wept at the world's pain he is only half a man, and there will always be pain in the world. Knowing this does not mean that a man shall despair A good man will seek to take the pain out of things. A foolish man will not even notice it, except in himself. And the poor unfortunate evil man will drive pain deeper into things and spread it about wherever he goes."
— From the novel, "The Human Comedy," by William Saroyan
LAST NIGHT I WEPT FOR FREEDOM
THEY ARE GOING TO KILL THE PANTHER-MAN, THEODORE OLEBOGENG REALIZES WITH HORROR!
HE KNOWS THIS WITH CERTAINTY, THOUGH FOR HIM AT SIX YEARS OLD DEATH IS A VAGUE THREAT THAT IS UPON RARE OCCASIONS PAINFULLY AND PERPLEXINGLY FULFILLED.
THEY ARE GOING TO KILL ME!
THE GREAT BLACK CAT PANICS--
--INSTINCTIVE FEAR OF FIRE BIRTHING AS SUDDEN AS A MATCH SCRAPING INTO A BURST OF FLAME.


THEY ARE GOING TO KILL THE PANTHER!
MIYO MOSHI'SO HAS NO RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
HEY! HE'S TRYING TO ESCAPE! OOOFF!
IT'S QUITE POSSIBLE THE PANTHER'S INTERVENTION WILL ENABLE HIM TO ESCAPE.
whaaa!!
NOT TO RETURN HERE, EVER AGAIN, IF HE DOES BREAK FREE.
IF THE COMRADS SPOT HIM ANYWHERE IN TOWN, HE WILL NEVER GET A SECOND REPRIEVE.
KILL HIM LIKE A SLAUGHTERED CALF. AS QUICK AND FINAL.
KRUGGG
GAS
SLOSH
THEY ARE GOING TO KILL T'CHALLA! ZANTI CHIKANE ALMOST SCREAMS THE DEED ALOUD.
HE COMMANDS HIMSELF TO LEAP OUT OF THE TREE INTO THE MELEE, YET STILL HESITATES FOR LONG SECONDS.

DO IT NOW!
HE IS STILL TRYING TO ARGUE HIMSELF OUT OF THE JUMP (T'CHALLA SAID, "STAY OUT OF IT.") EVEN AS HIS FEET LEAVE THE BRANCH
T'CHALLA'S CRAZINESS MUST BE CONTAGIOUS!
EVERYTHING SEEMS MUCH HIGHER THAN IT HAD ON THE BRANCH--
--AND HE IS DROPPING VERY FAST--
--TOO FAST!
THUPP
AND HITTING HARD, AIR WHOOSHING OUT OF HIS LUNGS.
BET HE WRENCHED HIS BACK.
PROBABLY SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS IDIOTIC STUNT FOR A MONTH
MAYBE A YEAR.
IF HE LIVES PAST TONIGHT
HOW DOES T'CHALLA MAKE SUCH A LEAP LOOK SO EASY?
THE PANTHER HAS FELT FIRE DESTROYING HIS FLESH BEFORE. A TERRIBLE MEMORY OF PAIN BECOMING FIERCER IN ITS AFTERMATH RATHER THAN DULLER
GET THE GASOLINE SOAKED TIRE OFF YOUR BACK!
ROLL IN THE DUST AND STRAGGLY CLUMPS OF GRASS DON'T STOP!
DON'T TRY TO GET UP AND RUN!

THEODORE OLEBOGENG TWISTS THE COMMUNAL WATER SPIGOT VICIOUSLY. ALMOST DAILY HIS MOTHER PLACES HIM UNDER A SIMILAR SPIGOT AND RELEASES THE GUSH OF BRACKISH WATER OVER HIS PROTESTING, DIRT-SMEARED FACE
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
OLEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOUR DUMB BROTHER'S GOING TO GET US ALL KILL-DED!
I'M COMING PANTHER-MAN, SIR!
THE MOST VIOLENT DEATHS THEODORE OLEBOGENG HAD EVER SEEN WERE IN SOME OF THE MOVIES AT THE THEATER NEAR THE LOCAL SHEBEEN WHERE HIS FATHER DRANK LION'S BEER
THESE PICTURES MOSTLY SHOWED WHITE PEOPLE KILLING EACH OTHER.
SOMETIMES IN THESE MOVIES, ONE OF THE WHITE PEOPLE MANAGED TO GET SET AFIRE LIKE THE COMRADS HAD DONE TO THE PANTHER-MAN--
--AND THE MOVIE-MAN WOULD RUN AROUND CRAZILY SCREAMING--
--AND THEN FALLING ON THE GROUND, LIMBS TWITCHING--

-- HANDS DOING FUNNY THINGS LIKE POUNDING THE GROUND, ALL THE WHILE, THE SCREAMS CONTINUING.
THE MOST THEODORE COULD FIGURE OUT--
--WAS THAT DEATH HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE SCREAMS STOPPING.
IT WAS ALL PRETTY EXCITING AND SCARY. HE WAS NEVER SURE WHAT WHITE PEOPLE WERE GOING TO DO NEXT.
EVEN OUTSIDE THE MOVIES, MOST OF THE WHITES HE SAW CARRIED WEAPONS.
WELL, SURE, THEY WERE SECURITY FORCES, WEREN'T THEY?
CLOSH
THESE MEN WEREN'T VERY EXCITING, BUT MOST TIMES SCARY-STERN. WHITE PEOPLE DIDN'T SEEM TO LAUGH MUCH.
SSSSSSS
HI, PANTHER MAN.
WE MADE IT, DIDN'T WE?


ZANTI REALIZES THE SPY IS TAKING AWKWARD FLIGHT FROM THE BLEEDING, SWEATING MOB.
DESPITE THE BRUTAL INTRUSION OF THE COMRADS, T'CHALLA WILL STILL WANT TO QUESTION THE MAN.
T'CHALLA'D STOP HIM WITH A QUICK REACH, (FLICK!) AND YANK THE SPY RIGHT OFF HIS FEET.
NOT AS EASY AS IT LOOKS. NOTHING T'CHALLA DOES IS AS EASY AS HE MAKES IT LOOK.
SHUTT
THE COLLABORATOR IS GETTING AWAY!
NKOSI! OTHERS APPROACH BEHIND US!
SWIPE
OOPS
DOESN'T MATTER WHO THEY ARE.
THEY CAN'T STOP THIS.
WHOOOSH!
MIYO MOSHIGO RUNS DESPERATELY, BUT NOT WITHOUT A DESTINATION IN MIND.
ALL HE HAS TO DO IS REACH THE PLACE WHERE ELMER "SEX 'N' VIOLENCE" GORE AND HIS MEN ARE STATIONED.
REACH GORE, AND HE'LL HAVE PROTECTION.
THEODORE OLEBOGENG CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT HE IS WET FROM. IT ISN'T WATER, IT SMELLS TOO BAD FOR THAT.
IF HE SMELLS IT, FOR SURE HIS MOTHER WILL SMELL IT A ROOM AWAY.
SHE'LL PROBABLY KILL HIM WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE.

THE GROUP HAD COME SO QUIETLY, ZANTI IS NOT AWARE OF THEIR PRESENCE UNTIL THE BLOOD OF A VICTIM SPLATTERS ACROSS HIS FACE.
HE SMEARS BLOOD FROM HIS EYES, AND GLIMPSES THE WHITE HEADBANDS AND ARMBANDS
THE UNIFORM OF THE "FATHERS."
MOST OF THESE MEN ARE OLDER THAN THE COMRADS, THERE IS AN ABSENCE OF BRAGGADOCIO ABOUT THEM AS THEY WIELD THEIR CLUBS.
YOU OKAY, PANTHER MAN?
THE PANTHER WANTS TO REPLY, BUT THE PAINFUL PULSE IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS BACK, COMES QUICK AND SHARP, THEN GONE. THEN BACK, QUICKER AND SHARPER.
HE WOULD THANK HIS SCARRED-HEED SAVIOR, IF THE PAIN WOULD LET HIM STOP PRESSING HIS TEETH TOGETHER SO FIERCELY THEY SURELY MUST BREAK.
THERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE BEHIND THE BOY.
A RIBBON OF FLAME?
YES! RUSHING LIKE A BURNING CURRENT RIGHT TOWARD THE BOY.
NO! WATCH OUT!

THE FIRE RACES UP HIS LEGS, AND IT IS BROTHER TO THE TEAR-GAS SERPENT--
--A GIANT BROTHER--
--AND HE ATTEMPTS TO OUTRUN THE MONSTROUS HURT. BUT THERE IS NO FINISH LINE TO THE PAIN.
WHAP
DON'T RUN! DON'T RUN!
LAST NIGHT I WEPT FOR FREEDOM--
--AND IT SEEMED SUCH A FOREIGN WORD--
-AN INCONCEIVABLE CONCEPT--
-IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE--
--EVEN THROUGH BLOOD AND SACRIFICE.

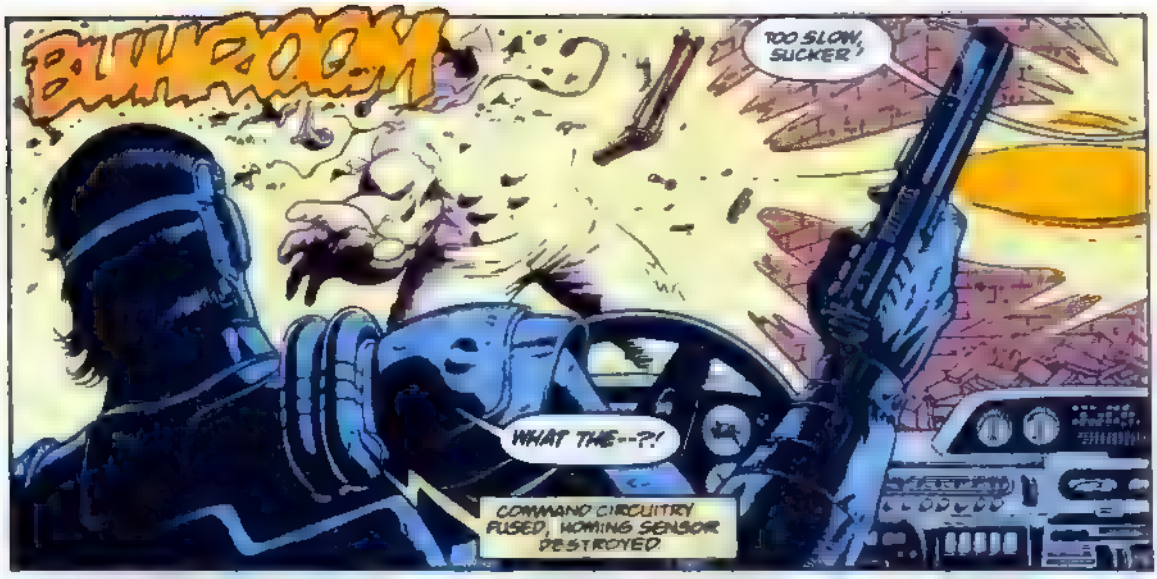
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

COLDBLOOD IN RISE, AND SHINE

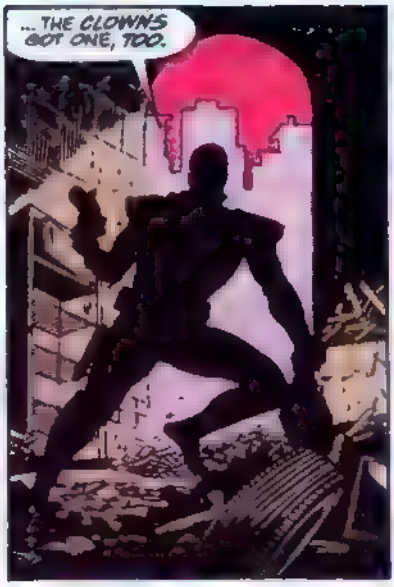
Chapter II The FUNHOUSE

BUT I STILL NEED THE RIGHT ONE.
KKRRRR
COLDBLOOD-7: A SERIES-5 URBAN SOLDIER CYBORG WITH WETWARE-GRAFTED COMPU--
I HEARD YOU BEFORE, COMPUTER.
PEEP
AND I WANT MORE THAN YOU'RE WILLING TO TELL.
WHAT'S HE DOING?
LEARNING FAST. THAT'S WHAT HE'S DOING-- SUCKING THE HUNTER-ROBOT DRY--
--SIPHONING ITS DATA, INPUTTING IT INTO HIS OWN INTERNAL COMPUTER.
MY GOD. THEN HE IS FAST IN ADJUSTING TO HIS NEW CONDITION...
SHOULD WE ABORT? SELF-DESTRUCT THE HUNTER-ROBOT?
AND THEN HOW WOULD WE LEARN ANYTHING, YOU CRETINS? BESIDES IF WE'VE DONE OUR WORK PROPERLY, THE HUNTER-UNIT'S DETONATION WOULD BARELY SCRATCH COLDBLOOD.
FOR THE TIME BEING, WE DO NOTHING BUT OBSERVE.
DON'T YOU AGREE, GINA?
UH, YES, MAKO... I DO AGREE.

HE'S A LOT LIKE YOU, COMPUTER-- DIDN'T TELL ME MUCH...
BUT SINCE HE'S GOT A HOMING SENSOR... HE CAN HAVE HIS HEAD BACK.
NOW-- STATUS REPORT.
WE HAVE SUPERSEDED THE FREQUENCY OF ITS COMMAND CIRCUITS.
THEN IT WORKED-- AND I CONTROL IT NOW-- WHICH MEANS THE NEXT STEP IS CALLED TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER.
ALL RIGHT, BIG BOY-- ACTIVATE YOUR HOMING SENSOR AND START WALKING.
UH-OH, CAN'T LET THIS GO ON-- HE'S USING THE HUNTER-ROBOT TO LEAD HIM HERE.
NOW WE'VE GOT TO SELF-DESTRUCT THE--
I SAID NO--
"-- INSTEAD, LET'S SEE HOW HE REACTS WHEN WE PUT A DIFFERENT SPIN ON THE SITUATION..."
THINK FAST, SUCKER--
--OR POP GOES THE GUIDE-BOT!
SKRASH
"A PSYCHOLOGICAL SPIN."

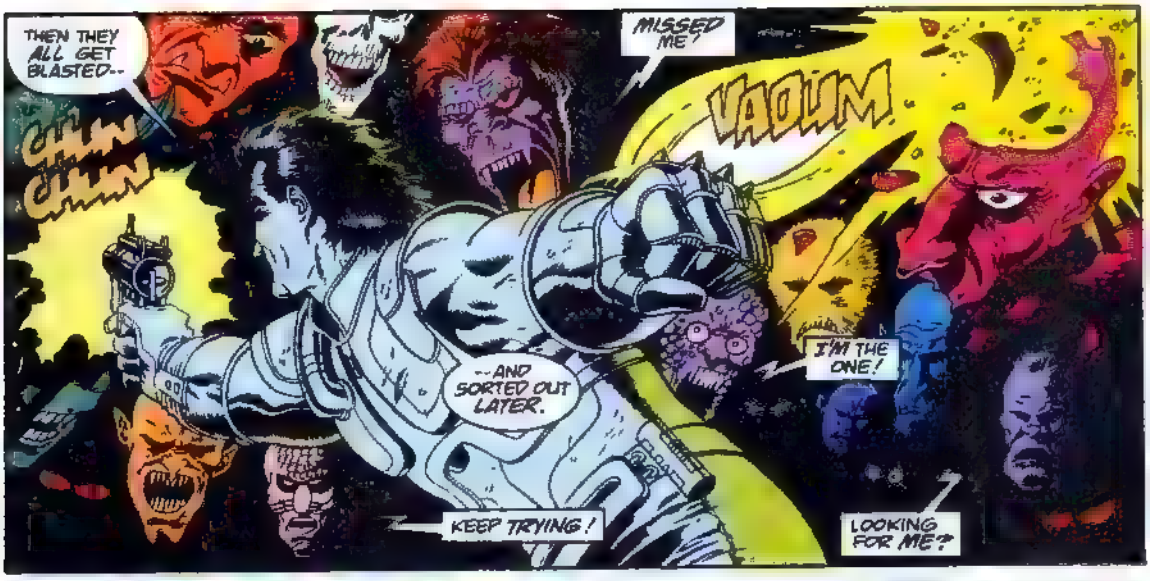

BLAMMM
TOO SLOW, SUCKER!
WHAT THE--?!
COMMAND CIRCUITRY FUSED, HOMING SENSOR DESTROYED

MAYBE SO, COMPUTER, BUT TEN TO ONE IT'S STANDARD FACTORY INSTALLATION--
--AND THAT MEANS...


...THE CLOWNS GOT ONE, TOO.

BEHIND YOU!
OVER HERE!

THIS WAY!
ME!
NO--ME!
WHICH ONE, COMPUTER?
UNKNOWN


THEN THEY ALL GET BLASTED--
CHUNK CHUNK CHUNK
MISSED ME!
VAOUM
--AND SORTED OUT LATER.
I'M THE ONE!
KEEP TRYING!
LOOKING FOR ME?

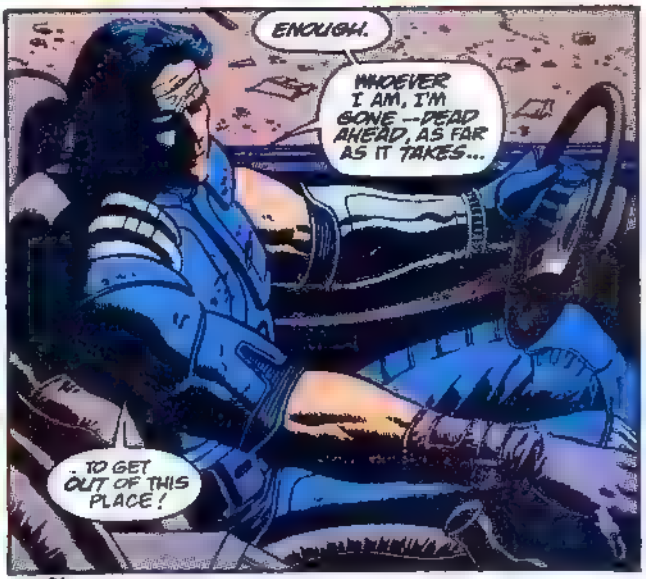
SPLAK
BAMSH

PRAKT
SPRUK
ALL TARGETS HIT.

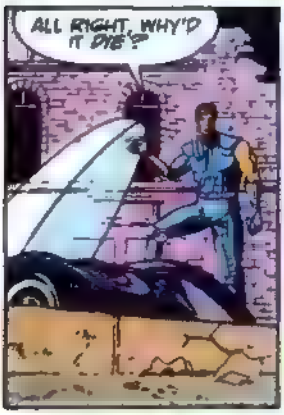
YEAH-- AND THERE'S THE CLOWN- ROBOT.
BUT.

...WHY DIDN'T ITS FACE.. SHATTER?
BECAUSE IT WAS NOT--

BUMF
--A ROBOT.


ENOUGH.
WHOEVER I AM, I'M GONE --DEAD AHEAD, AS FAR AS IT TAKES...
TO GET OUT OF THIS PLACE!

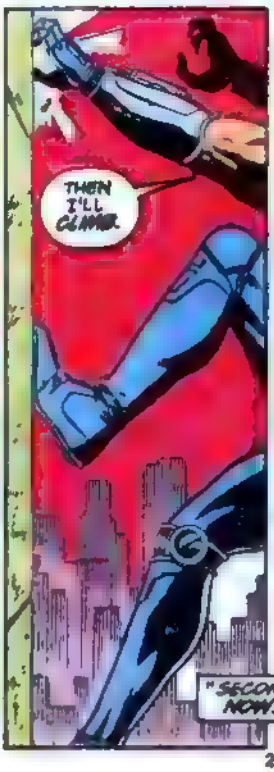
HE'S EITHER SNAPPED--OR REACTING EXTREMELY WELL.
EITHER WAY, HE'S GETTING TOO FAR TOO FAST--TOO CLOSE TO THE PERIMETER..
MAKO SAYS TO SHUT HIM DOWN--IN TWO STAGES, CAR FIRST.
DONE


ALL RIGHT, WHY'D IT DIE?

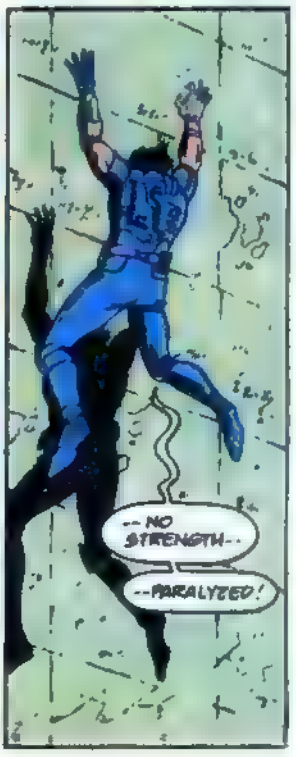
UNKNOWN

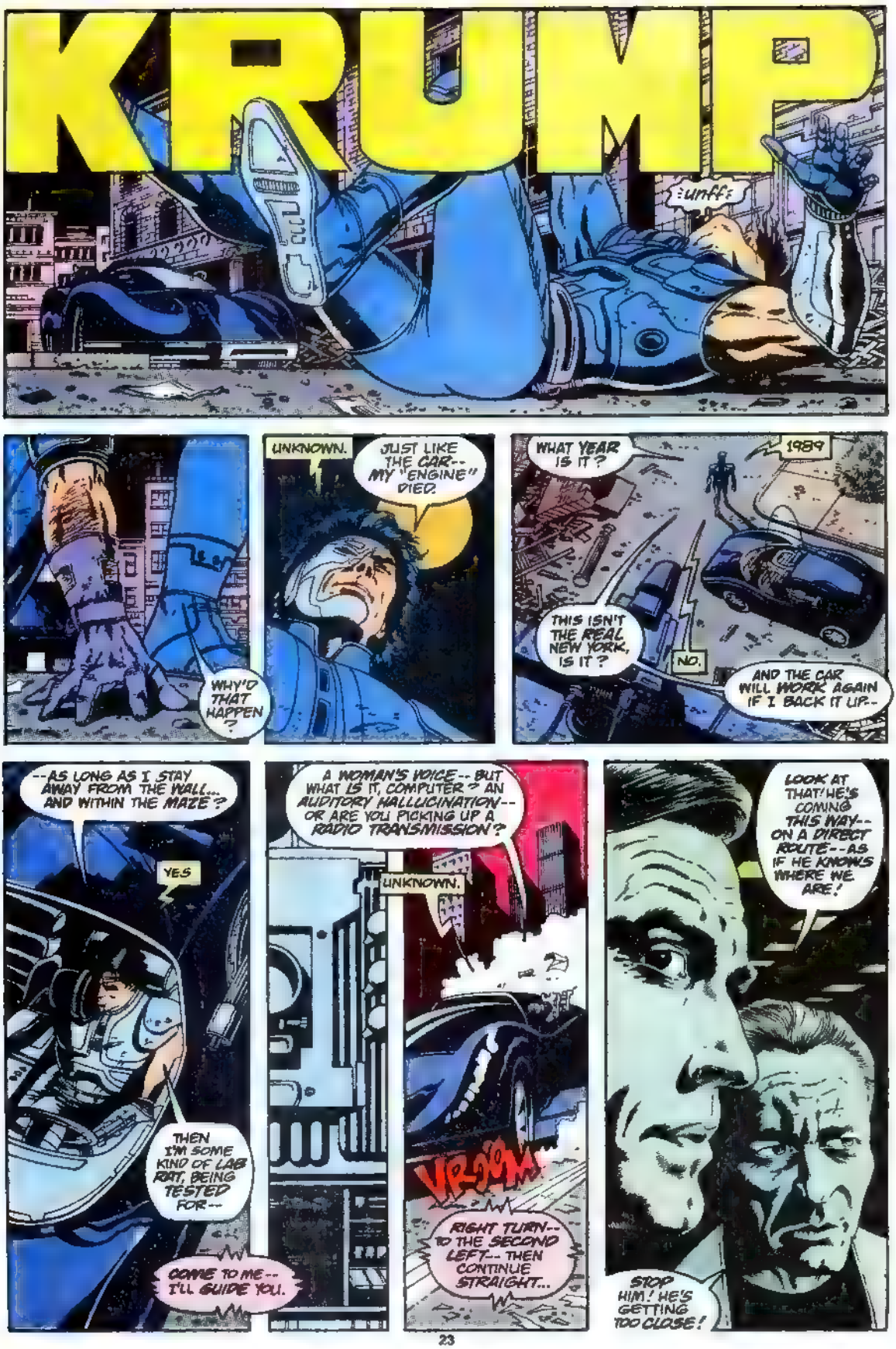
THEN I'LL WALK.

THERE'S NO WALL LIKE THIS IN NEW YORK.
WHAT'S IT DOING HERE?
UNKNOWN.


THEN I'LL CLIMB.
"SECOND STAGE--NOW."

AGH-H!
MY ARMS.. LEGS.. HEART--


--NO STRENGTH--
--PARALYZED!

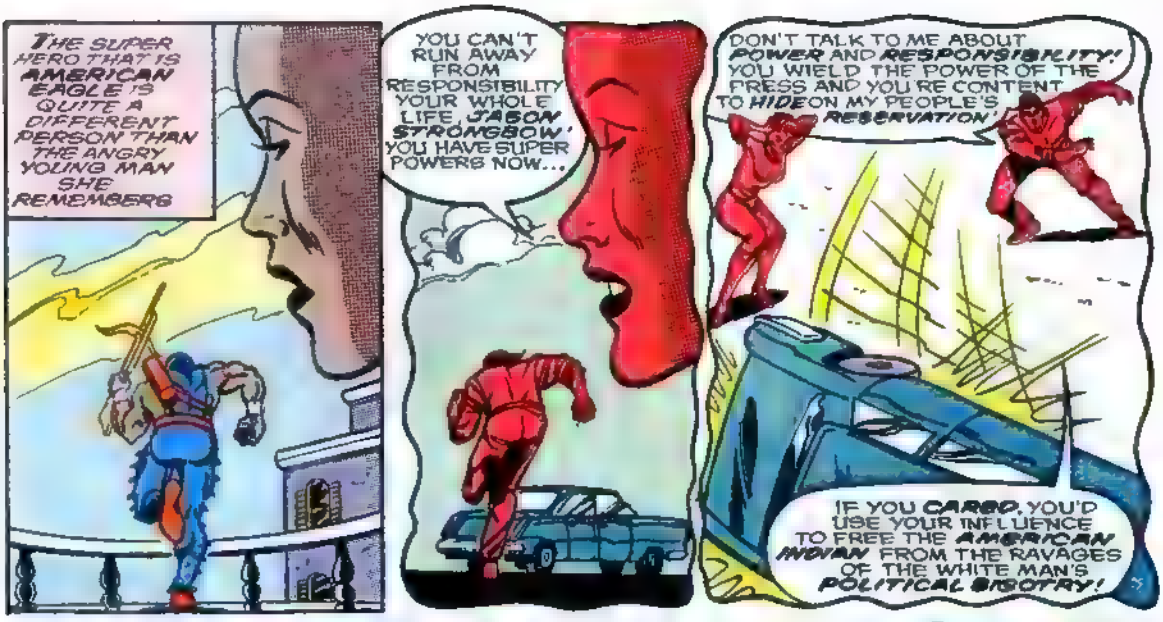

KRUMP
:unff:
WHY'D THAT HAPPEN ?
UNKNOWN.
JUST LIKE THE CAR-- MY "ENGINE" DIED.
WHAT YEAR IS IT ?
1989
THIS ISN'T THE REAL NEW YORK, IS IT ?
NO.
AND THE CAR WILL WORK AGAIN IF I BACK IT UP--
--AS LONG AS I STAY AWAY FROM THE WALL... AND WITHIN THE MAZE ?
YES
THEN I'M SOME KIND OF LAB RAT, BEING TESTED FOR--
COME TO ME-- I'LL GUIDE YOU.
A WOMAN'S VOICE-- BUT WHAT IS IT, COMPUTER ? AN AUDITORY HALLUCINATION-- OR ARE YOU PICKING UP A RADIO TRANSMISSION ?
UNKNOWN.
VROOM
RIGHT TURN-- TO THE SECOND LEFT-- THEN CONTINUE STRAIGHT...
LOOK AT THAT! HE'S COMING THIS WAY-- ON A DIRECT ROUTE-- AS IF HE KNOWS WHERE WE ARE!
STOP HIM! HE'S GETTING TOO CLOSE!

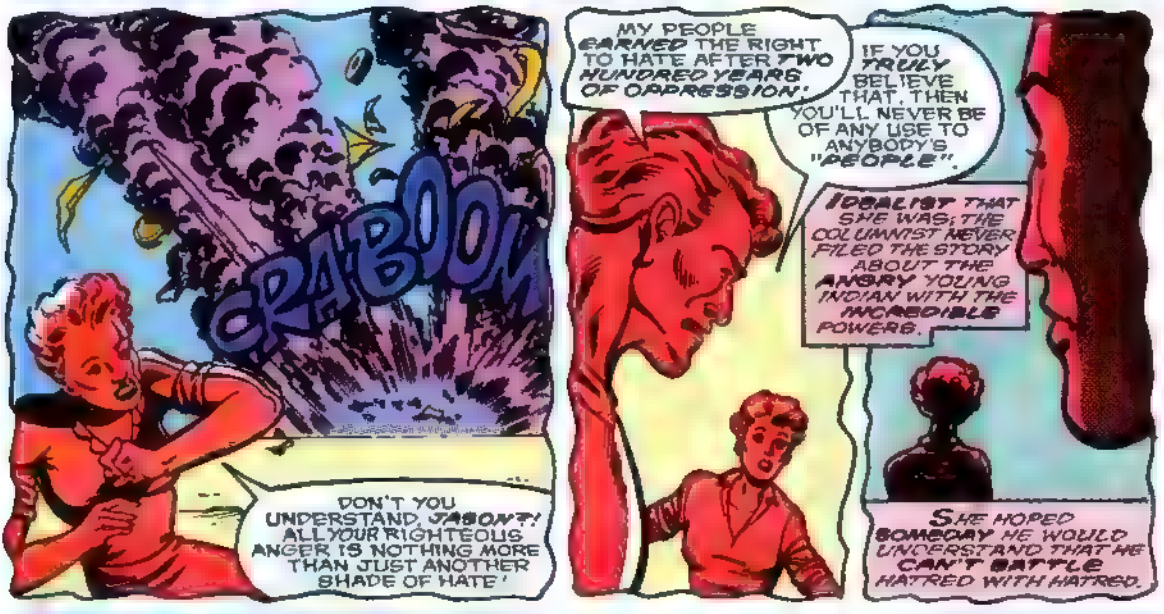
SHUT HIM DOWN!
I DID-- BUT HE'S STILL COMING... ALMOST HERE.!
WE'VE LOST CONTROL OF HIM! MAXO WILL KILL US!
STOP HERE AND ENTER.
THE LIBRARY?
THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
IT IS NOT A LIBRARY--
--IT IS A FACADE... HIDING MADNESS.
"HE'S HERE! GET MEN OUT THERE -- ROBOTS, GUNS -- WHATEVER IT TAKES TO KEEP THIS COMPLEX SECURE!"
PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A FIREFIGHT, COLDBLOOD.
BWOOP
BWOOP
BWOOP
BUT DON'T WORRY.. YOU'VE BEEN VERY WELL DESIGNED.
JUST KEEP COMING, KEEP YOUR COOL, KEEP FIRING...
... AND YOU'LL REACH ME!
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

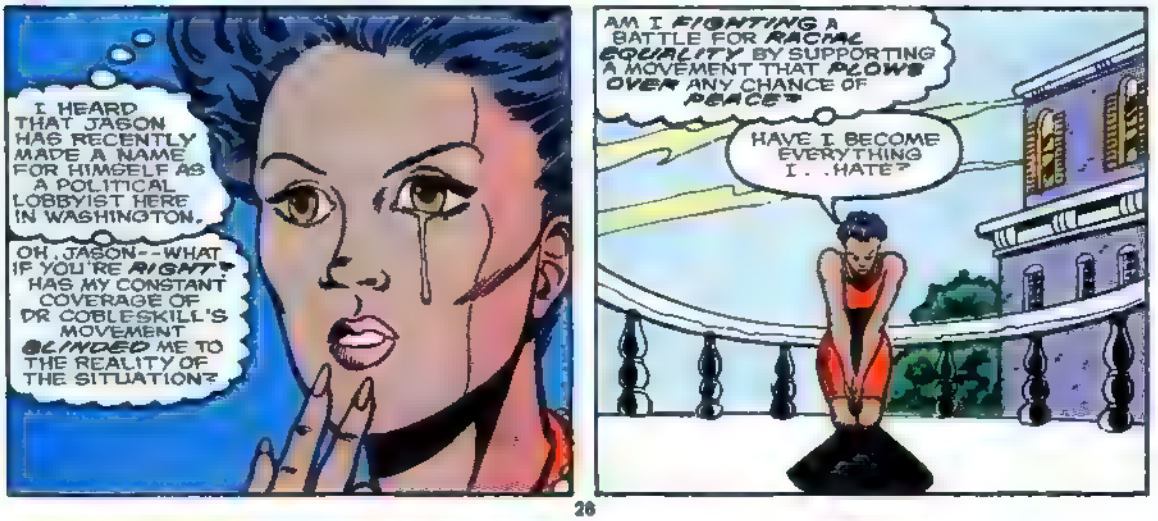
AMERICAN EAGLE
YOUR ATTENTION, PLEASE! WE ARE THE KNIGHTS OF SAINT VIRGIL AND IT IS OUR HOLY VOCATION TO RID THIS SACRED PLANET OF ALL THAT IS VILE!
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, DR COBLESKILL, THAT NECESSITATES YOUR VIOLENT DEATH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.
JOHN, AARON--DON'T REACH FOR YOUR GUNS. THESE LUNATICS ARE DANGEROUS.
BUT, DR COBLESKILL--
THE PLACE--WASHINGTON, D.C.
THE EVENT--A FUND-RAISING DINNER ON BEHALF OF "THE MOVEMENT".
THE EMOTION--
JUST ANOTHER SHADE OF HATE!

WHAT THE--?!
FA-BRWUMP
UHN!
OH NO! NOT THE OLD "PULL THE RUG OUT FROM UNDERNEATH THE LADIES OF PITIFULLY HOPELESS RACIST RELIGIOUS HERETICS" TRICK!
SORRY, GUYS, I COULDN'T RESIST!
NOW--SINCE YOU'RE ALL UNCONSCIOUS, I'M SURE YOU WON'T MIND WAITING QUIETLY FOR THE POLICE TO ARRIVE.
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY. MY MEN WILL SEE TO THEIR "PUNISHMENT", MR--?
MR EAGLE--AMERICAN EAGLE, IT'S WRITTEN DOWN SOMEWHERE THAT I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO HARM THESE MEN. YOU KNOW, "DUE PROCESS" AND ALL THAT
THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! MY PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT TO DEFEND OURSELVES FROM THE THREATS OF AN OPPRESSIVE WHITE SOCIETY!
FINE, DR. COBLESKILL--
--DEFEND YOURSELF ALL YOU WANT UNTIL THE POLICE ARRIVE.
POLICE! EVERYONE FREEZE!
GREAT! JUST WHAT THE CAPITAL NEEDS--ITS VERY OWN SUPER HERO!
ARE YOU BEING SARCASTIC? COME ALONG, MA'AM--WE DON'T NEED THIS KIND OF ABUSE
HOLD ON TIGHT, I--GAH!--ER, NOT THAT TIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? UNHAND ME!
I CAN'T WATCH! WE'RE GOING TO DIE, AREN'T WE?!

THAT'D BE EMBARRASSING! "SUPER HERO DIES DURING D.C. DEBUT" FILM AT ELEVEN!
WILL YOU STOP JOKING AND DO SOMETHING?!
SO I'LL JUST WHIP OUT THE OLD CROSSBOW, AAAANNND,
SPRING!
SWOOSH
NOW, HOW ABOUT A QUICK LANDING ON THIS NEARBY TERRACE?
PERFECT
ACTUALLY THE ACT OF "STOMPING" WOULD BE DOING SOMETHING, BUT YOU WERE PROBABLY REFERRING TO A RESCUE.
...WE'RE UP, UP, AND--
--SOMEWHERE ELSE!
YOU IDIOT! YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN US KILLED!
SLAP
BEFORE YOU WRITE YOUR FAMOUSLY BIASED NEWSPAPER COLUMN TOMORROW MORNING, I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT TO KNOW THAT THOSE "INVIGILANTS" WORK FOR DR COBLESKILL!
THAT'S AWSAME! THEY TRIED TO KILL HIM!
MAYBE JUST A LITTLE, IF IT HELPS, MS CARGILL. MY ORIGINAL INTENT WAS TO WARN YOU
NOT ACCORDING TO MY HEIGHTENED SENSES. THEIR WEAPONS WERE UNLOADED, BUT I DOUBT THEY KNEW THAT WHEN THEY TOOK THE JOB OF IGNITING RACIAL TENSION.
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
WHAT I M SAYING, JONNA, IS BE CAREFUL. AS A REPORTER YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THINGS AS MORE THAN "JUST ANOTHER SHADE OF HATE".
jason?

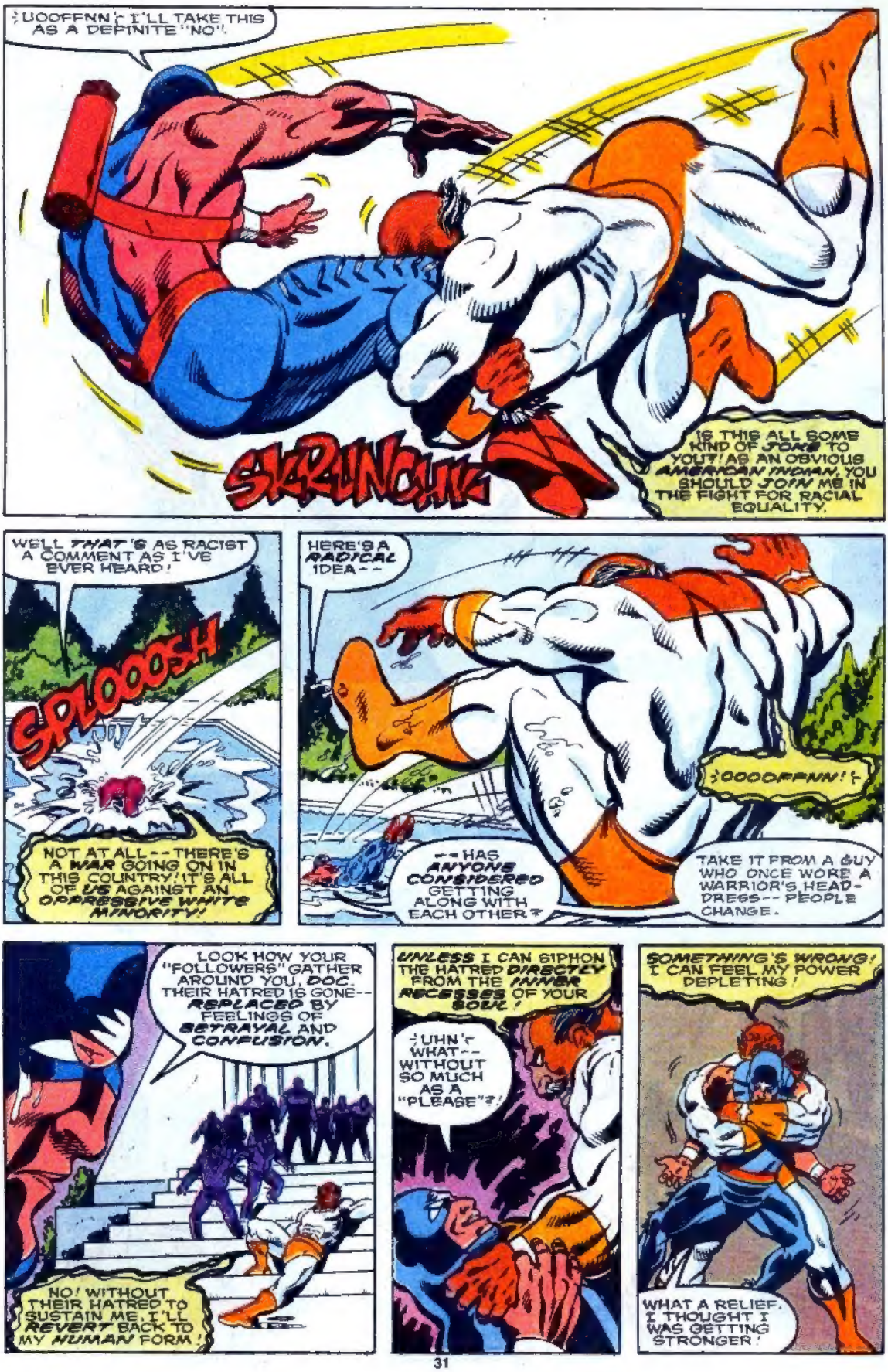

THE SUPER HERO THAT IS AMERICAN EAGLE IS QUITE A DIFFERENT PERSON THAN THE ANGRY YOUNG MAN SHE REMEMBERS
YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM RESPONSIBILITY YOUR WHOLE LIFE, JASON STRONGBOW! YOU HAVE SUPER POWERS NOW...
DON'T TALK TO ME ABOUT POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY! YOU WIELD THE POWER OF THE PRESS AND YOU'RE CONTENT TO HIDE ON MY PEOPLE'S RESERVATION!
IF YOU CARED, YOU'D USE YOUR INFLUENCE TO FREE THE AMERICAN INDIAN FROM THE RAVAGES OF THE WHITE MAN'S POLITICAL BIGOTRY!


KA-BOOM
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, JASON?! ALL YOUR RIGHTEOUS ANGER IS NOTHING MORE THAN JUST ANOTHER SHADE OF HATE!
MY PEOPLE EARNED THE RIGHT TO HATE AFTER TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF OPPRESSION!
IF YOU TRULY BELIEVE THAT, THEN YOU'LL NEVER BE OF ANY USE TO ANYBODY'S "PEOPLE".
IDEALIST THAT SHE WAS; THE COLUMNIST NEVER FILED THE STORY ABOUT THE ANGRY YOUNG INDIAN WITH THE INCREDIBLE POWERS.
SHE HOPED SOMEDAY HE WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT HE CAN'T BATTLE HATRED WITH HATRED.


I HEARD THAT JASON HAS RECENTLY MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF AS A POLITICAL LOBBYIST HERE IN WASHINGTON.
OH, JASON--WHAT IF YOU'RE RIGHT? HAS MY CONSTANT COVERAGE OF DR COBLESKILL'S MOVEMENT BLINDED ME TO THE REALITY OF THE SITUATION?
AM I FIGHTING A BATTLE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY BY SUPPORTING A MOVEMENT THAT PLOWS OVER ANY CHANCE OF PEACE?
HAVE I BECOME EVERYTHING I...HATE?

THE NEXT MORNING ..
OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO, A GREATER MAN THAN I STOOD IN FRONT OF THIS PODIUM AND PROCLAIMED THAT HE HAD A DREAM.
I'M HERE TODAY TO TELL YOU THAT DREAMS ARE FOR PEOPLE THAT SLEEP! IN THE PAST TWO DECADES, THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY HAVE AWAKENED TO DISCOVER THE AMERICAN NIGHTMARE!
LOOK AT THEIR FACES! THE RAGE--THE HATRED--AM I TOO LATE?
OUR PEOPLE AS A NATION WITHIN A NATION ARE DYING! WE'RE BEING CHOKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT, STRANGLED BY POVERTY AND BEATEN BY A WHITE JUDICIAL SYSTEM!
THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THERE IS A MOVEMENT THAT IS GROWING STRONGER EVERY DAY. A MOVEMENT THAT WILL CREATE CHANGE, A MOVEMENT TOWARDS PEACE.
BUT, NO! THERE WILL NEVER BE THAT CHANGE UNTIL WE GO TO THE LEADERS OF THIS COUNTRY, WITH HATE IN OUR HEARTS...
...AND DEMAND THAT CHANGE!
BAM
LET US RAISE OUR FISTS IN ANGER AND--
OR COBLEIGH! NO! YOU MUST TELL THESE PEOPLE THE TRUTH!
YOU HIRED THESE MEN AND THEN PAID THEIR BAIL! YOU STAGED THAT ATTACK LAST NIGHT IN ORDER TO INCITE A RIOT!
ENOUGH, WOMAN! YOU'LL DO NO MORE DAMAGE!
SWAK
UHHN!

PSSSSST..
WHA--?
NOT A GOOD IDEA, DOC NOW, WHAT ARE THE CHANCES THAT WE CAN DISCUSS THIS LIKE TWO CIVILIZED HUMAN BEINGS?
FOOL! I'VE MANIPULATED THE CROWD'S EMOTIONS TO A FEVER PITCH! I CAN USE MY MUTANT ABILITY TO DRAIN OFF THEIR HATRED AND TURN IT INTO PHYSICAL POWER!
AMERICAN EAGLE--WHAT'S GOING ON?!
OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD I'D SAY I'M IN FOR THE FIGHT OF MY LIFE!
IS THERE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST POSSIBILITY THAT YOU'LL COME ALONG QUIETLY LIKE A GOOD LITTLE HATE MONGER?
NO! HATE IS JUST THE MEANS TO AN END!
I AM--THE PEACE MONGER!
MY GOAL IS TO BRING ABOUT PEACE BETWEEN ALL MEN, EVEN IF I MUST DO IT OVER A MOUNTAIN OF LIFELESS BODIES!
OH. IN THAT CASE, WOULD YOU CONSIDER COMING ALONG LIKE A GOOD LITTLE PEACE MONGER?


UOOFFNN! I'LL TAKE THIS AS A DEFINITE "NO".
SKRUNCH!
IS THIS ALL SOME KIND OF JOKE TO YOU? AS AN OBVIOUS AMERICAN INDIAN, YOU SHOULD JOIN ME IN THE FIGHT FOR RACIAL EQUALITY.
WELL THAT'S AS RACIST A COMMENT AS I'VE EVER HEARD!
SPLOOOSH
NOT AT ALL -- THERE'S A WAR GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY! IT'S ALL OF US AGAINST AN OPPRESSIVE WHITE MINORITY!
HERE'S A RADICAL IDEA --
OOOOFFNN!
-- HAS ANYONE CONSIDERED GETTING ALONG WITH EACH OTHER?
TAKE IT FROM A GUY WHO ONCE WORE A WARRIOR'S HEADDRESS -- PEOPLE CHANGE.
LOOK HOW YOUR "FOLLOWERS" GATHER AROUND YOU, DOC. THEIR HATRED IS GONE -- REPLACED BY FEELINGS OF BETRAYAL AND CONFUSION.
NO! WITHOUT THEIR HATRED TO SUSTAIN ME, I'LL REVERT BACK TO MY HUMAN FORM!
UNLESS I CAN SIPHON THE HATRED DIRECTLY FROM THE INNER RECESSES OF YOUR SOUL!
UHN! WHAT -- WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A "PLEASE"?
SOMETHING'S WRONG! I CAN FEEL MY POWER DEPLETING!
WHAT A RELIEF. I THOUGHT I WAS GETTING STRONGER!

BUT WE ARE BOTH SYMBOLS OF OUR PEOPLE! THERE MUST BE ANGER AND FRUSTRATION BURNING WITHIN YOUR BREAST! ONLY WITH HATRED SHALL WE OVERCOME!
I MAY HAVE BELIEVED THAT WHEN I WAS YOUNGER--
--BUT A FRIEND OF MINE ONCE POINTED OUT THAT HATE, WHATEVER THE SHADE AND FOR WHATEVER THE REASON, ONLY DESTROYS.
SURE I GET ANGRY AND FRUSTRATED, BUT IF I'M GOING TO FIGHT FOR CHANGE IN THIS WORLD OF OURS, IT'S GOING TO BE WITH LOVE IN MY HEART.
I HAVE NEITHER THE TIME NOR THE ENERGY TO WASTE ON HATE.
BUT--BUT THE MOVEMENT...
YEAH, ABOUT THAT...
MAYBE IT'S TIME WE STOPPED ALL THESE "MOVEMENTS" SO WE CAN STAND STILL LONG ENOUGH TO GET THINGS DONE--
--TOGETHER.
"MR. EAGLE", ISN'T IT? DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS FOR THE PRESS?
YES, YOU CAN QUOTE ME AS SAYING "THESE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING".
LET'S HOPE SO, JASON. LET'S HOPE SO.
:AWWWW:
THE END.

MARVEL® READERS PRESENT

Attention correspondents: All letters considered for publication must include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

Dear Terry,

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #21 was another in a long line of great issues. For the umpteenth time, I liked all four stories within. Before I go any further, I'd just like to say that I like the format the way it is, so don't change it! Now on to my individual comments:

"The Retribution Affair" continues to be my favorite long-running series to date (with "Panther's Quest" running a close second!). I can see that working with Chris Claremont has rubbed off on Bob Harras's style. His grip on the character of Cyclops is great. I hope we see Bob writing other X-Men characters in the future. The art team (even though there's another different inker) is consistently good. I've been a fan of Ron Lim since seeing him on PSI-FORCE, and I think he's only gotten better since then. This Master Mold saga is really turning into a classic so take a bow for this one, guys, you really deserve it.

Speaking of classics, another candidate is the Black Panther epic known as "Panther's Quest." I know it'll be only a matter of time before this story is turned into a trade paperback. Don't worry, though, I'll definitely buy it (if only to see the beautiful colors on higher quality paper)! Don McGregor, Gene Colan, and Tom Palmer should all be proud of themselves for this job. T'Challa has never looked better.

For months now I've been reading about Scott Lobdell in your letters pages, and I hadn't read enough by him to make a judgment on his work. Well, now I can safely say that you guys were right in your assessment of him. I really like his work. "Let's Take It From Where I Swing In and Rescue You" was a funny and well-crafted story. Scott did Stan Lee proud with this one. I hope we can see some more of this guy in the future. His stories are fun!

Yes, I even liked "The First Cut" by Marc McLaurin. Even though I must say that I felt the art was pretty weak on this one, Marc's writing was much better here than in his last outing (a Cloak story, if I'm not mistaken). I really felt for the characters. I hope that we see more of the character "Ripper" in the future (that is, if he's not dead), he's really interesting.

Well, that's four-for-four with this one, guys. If the book is always as good as this, I'll read it forever!

Rich Rice
420 Clinton Street
Brooklyn, NY 11238

Wow, glad we're batting a thousand for you, Rich. We're also glad you like all of the new talent we're presenting here in these pages. You will see the work of Scott Lobdell in the near future right here in this book. He's written a Captain Ultra story which we think is quite good. The art is by Dennis Jensen and it's a real winner. As for the other new writer, (Marvel Assistant Editor) Marcus McLaurin, you can see more of his work in an upcoming Firestar series. This saga is co-written by the lovely Marie Javins, and illustrated by Dwayne Turner. This story is another sure winner, and they should both definitely keep up our batting average!

Dear Marvel,

I've just finished MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #21 and as of that issue, Paladin, the super soldier-of-fortune has become my favorite character. His personality makes him some sort of parody of the definition of the common hero. In other words, he does his job and doesn't care about politics, or anything else. This provides him with a more human attitude and points out that he's not perfect. I like his arrogant attitute towards everyone during the story. All in all, I beg you to give Paladin a monthly comic of his own, and I would suggest (if you respond positively to my plea) to continue with the team of Scott Lobdell and Ron Wilson, because I think they did a marvelous job.

John Brocks
(Address withheld by request)

Hmm . . . we'll think about it, John.

Dear Guys,

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #21 brought to mind one of the real drawbacks of featuring an established character like Cyclops in this title: when his optic power fizzles out, we know it won't be permanent, probably not even long-lasting, because of his appearance in other continuing titles. When Banshee lost his sonic powers in X-MEN, we didn't known if it would be just temporary or whether he would be powerless forever. If that had happened here, we'd have had no doubt, and the same is true of the current case with Cyclops. You can't make a significant, lasting change in a character in this comic without disrupting other titles unless you're dealing with a character who doesn't regularly appear in another comic, and this takes some of the suspense out of the story.

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS by both its name and its nature is a good place to introduce new characters into the Marvel Universe, yet in more than twenty issues we haven't seen one. I am not alone in my belief that you are overdue . . .

One of the better points of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS is that you have maintained a good balance in the stories presented each issue. The continuing stories are important in maintaining a body of readers, and the one-shot stories have usually included a good, lighthearted story for balance against the more serious tales.

Herman "Hermit" Wilson
8208 Briarwood Lane
Austin, TX 78758

Until M.C.P. #24, you were correct about no characters having lasting changes brought upon them in these pages. However, the return of Banshee's powers in that issue changes all that. And, if you stick around, you'll find that more heroes will be permanently affected in their regular titles from events that occur here (we're not giving any names yet!). Also, even though no new lead characters have been seen so far, some supporting characters have begun here (Tyger Tyger is now in WOLVERINE), and others with new regular titles have premiered here (like She-Hulk and Quasar) as well. And there's always "Coldblood" . . .

We do somewhat agree with your points, but we *are* trying. Thanks for telling us what you think!

Marvel Assistant Editors Fan Awards for 1988

And welcome to the ***MAE*** Fan Awards. We, the MIGHTY MARVEL ASSISTANT EDITORS, not wanting to cause a recall of all CBG ballots by pointing out that the all-important ASSISTANT EDITORS were left off the list, have decided to run a ballot of our own. We're letting you, the readers, decide which assistant has *hyped* him/herself the most and the *best!*

☐ **Mike Rockwitz**

☐ Marc McLaurin	☐ Kelly Corvese
☐ Renee Witterstaetter	☐ Daryl Edelman
☐ Dwayne McDuffie	☐ Marc Siry
☐ Dave Wohl	☐ Sara Tuchinsky
☐ Glenn Herdling	☐ Jim DiGiovanna

☐ Other _____

Please send in your ballot to ASSISTANT EDITOR AWARDS, or me, MIKE ROCKWITZ, c/o MARVEL COMICS, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ **Zip Code** _____

Please print clearly. We want to know who to grovel to.

COLDBLOOD™
IN THE FUNHOUSE OF DEATH!
AMERICAN EAGLE™
VS. THE PEACE-MONGER!